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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany
SUBJECT New Type Reed for Metal Weaving

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1. During 1952 the People's Owned Metal Screen Factory TEWA Neustadt tried out a new type weaving reed completed by the Zeiss Works, according to directions given by the head of the TEWA Neustadt Reed Plant. This experimental reed replaces the old method of soldering the lamellae to the reed frame by placing them tightly into the frame, separated from each other by short lamellae pieces and by screwing them tightly together with screws fixed at both ends of the screen. The reed, which was tried out successfully at TEWA Neustadt for the weaving of nickel wire screen until the end of October 1952, had a length of 50 centimeters and was able to weave screen of sizes between No. 230 and No. 250 from nickel wire of about 0.05 millimeter strength. The main improvement of this new type reed over the old kind was seen in the fact that it made impossible the dropping of binding wire no longer used in the fabrication of the new type screen - into the screen, an occurrence which frequently happens during the use of old type reeds, thus making whole stretches of screen unusable. On the basis of the successful results obtained at TEWA Neustadt, the Zeiss firm was charged with the fabrication of another new type reed of the same caliber and one meter length. This reed was completed at the end of March 1953. It will be tried out at TEWA Neustadt to find out if the good results obtained can be maintained with a longer reed.
2. TEWA Neustadt plans in the future to make its reeds of rougher calibers, after the model of the Schmidt invention. The frames for these reeds would have to be manufactured at the Zeiss Works in Jena, since the Neustadt plant does not have the necessary metal planing and milling machines. Should a new Russian order for delivery of fine caliber nickel screen be received (which so far has not arrived), the works also plans to fabricate its reeds of finer caliber, according to the Schmidt method.

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